This seminar will consider a range of issues in philosophy of law with particular emphasis on various dimensions of the relationship between law and morality. **Course Requirements:** Students are required to read each week's assignments carefully and participate regularly in class discussions. Each student must make a presentation to the seminar. Two writing options are available: (1) a research paper (approximately 6000 words) or (2) two shorter, critical essays (each approximately 2500 words). Readings are drawn mainly from contemporary legal philosophers working within the tradition of analytic jurisprudence. Those readings marked with an asterisk (*) are on E-Reserves. The following books (all available in paperback editions) are worth purchasing:

Ronald Dworkin, *Law’s Empire*
John Finnis, *Natural Law and Natural Rights* (2nd edition)
-------------, *Philosophy of Law* (in Collected Essays, Vol. IV)
Lon L. Fuller, *The Morality of Law*
Joseph Raz, *Practical Reason and Norms*

**Week 1: Organizational Meeting**

John Finnis, *Philosophy of Law*, ch. 5 (“A Grand Tour of Legal Theory”)

**Week 2: Hart's Concept of Law**


**Week 3: Hart’s Legal and Political Philosophy**


John Finnis, *Philosophy of Law*, chs. 10 and 11

**Week 4: Dworkin vs. Hart**

*Ronald Dworkin, *Taking Rights Seriously*, chs. 2-4


*H.L.A. Hart, *Essays on Bentham*, ch. 10*
Week 5: Raz's Legal Positivism

*Joseph Raz, The Authority of Law, chs. 3 and 9  
Joseph Raz, Practical Reason and Norms  
John Finnis, Natural Law and Natural Rights, ch. I and pp. 426-436

Week 6: Finnis's Natural Law Theory

*John Finnis, “Foundations of Practical Reason Revisited”  
John Finnis, Natural Law and Natural Rights, chs. II, V-XII and pp. 437-476  

Week 7: Unger on the “Critical Legal Studies” Movement

*Roberto M. Unger, The Critical Legal Studies Movement

John Finnis, Philosophy of Law, ch. 13

Week 8: Dworkin's "Law as Integrity"

Ronald Dworkin, Law's Empire

John Finnis, Philosophy of Law, ch. 12

Week 9: Fuller's "Inner Morality of Law"

Lon L. Fuller, The Morality of Law

*Joseph Raz, The Authority of Law, ch. 11

Week 10: Is There an Obligation to Obey the Law?

*M.B.E. Smith, "Is There a Prima Facie Obligation to Obey the Law?," in Yale Law Journal, Vol. 82 (1973)  
John Finnis, Philosophy of Law, ch. 2

Week 11: Moral Philosophy in Legal Interpretation


Week 12: “Legal Positivism” and “Natural Law” Revisited

*Jules Coleman and Brian Leiter, “Legal Positivism” in Dennis Patterson (ed.), A Companion to Philosophy of Law and Legal Theory

John Finnis, Philosophy of Law, ch. 1